

# HEATHER BELL

NEWSLETTER OF THE CALEDONIAN & ST. ANDREWS SOCIETY OF SEATTLE

[www.caledonians.com](http://www.caledonians.com)

Volume 117

Issue 3

March 2019

## NEXT GATHERING

Our March gathering will be on Sunday, March 10<sup>th</sup>. As usual, we will gather at 2:00 pm at Haller Lake United Methodist Church, 13055 1st Ave. NE, Seattle, WA. 98125.

## Facebook

The Caledonians have a Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/seattlecaledonians/?ref=bookmarks>

Diana Smith frequently posts interesting articles and notices, so check back often.

## Sunshine Report



Due to snow in February, the celebration of the life of **Kenneth Munro**, long-time Caledonian member and former president of the organization, was postponed until March 30<sup>th</sup>, at 2:00 pm at Lake City Presbyterian Church, 3841 NE 123rd Street Seattle, WA. Cards may be

sent to the Munro family care of Bonnie Munro, 19800 68<sup>th</sup> Ave. NE, Bothell, WA 98028-2039.

Bonnie reminds people that she does not have e-mail, so please call her when you have information about Caledonians who are ill or passed away. Her phone is 425-806-3734.

## Calendar of Seattle Area Scottish Events

### March

**3 Daymark, Irish music by an international trio**, Celtic Arts Foundation, 1124 Cleveland Ave., Mount Vernon, WA. 7pm. \$25. (360) 416-4934. [www.celticarts.org](http://www.celticarts.org)

**10 Caledonian & St. Andrews Society Gathering**, 2:00 pm. Haller Lake United Methodist Church, 13055 1st Ave. NE, Seattle, WA. 98125.

**12 SSHGA Meeting, 7:30 pm**. St. Andrew's Episcopal Church 111 NE 80<sup>th</sup> St., Seattle, WA. Info: (206) 522-2541

**16 Flight of Ireland Whiskey Tasting**, The 411, 411 NE 3<sup>rd</sup> St., McMinnville, OR. \$35. 503-435-0220 <https://www.macscottishfest.com/>

**16 St. Patrick's Day Ceilidh-bration**, Celtic Arts Foundation, Littlefield Celtic Center, 1124 Cleveland Ave., Mount Vernon, WA. 7:00pm. \$40. 360-416-4934 <http://www.celticarts.org>

**16 Geoffrey Castle's St. Patrick's Celebration**, The Admiral Theatre, 515 Pacific Ave., Bremerton, WA. \$13-56. 360-373-6743 <https://www.admiraltheatre.org/events/geoffreycastle>

**17 Geoffrey Castle's St. Patrick's Celebration**. Kirkland Performance Center, 350 Kirkland Ave., Kirkland, WA. \$44. 425-893-9900 <https://www.kpcenter.org/event/geoffrey-castles-14th-annual-st-patricks-celebration/>

### April

**5 "Jock's Jocks" Book Presentation & Signing**, Celtic Arts Foundation, Littlefield Celtic Center, 1124 Cleveland Ave., Mount Vernon, WA 7:00pm. \$25. 360-416-4934 <http://www.celticarts.org>

**6 Smallpipe Workshop**, Celtic Arts Foundation, Littlefield Celtic Center, 1124 Cleveland Ave., Mount Vernon, WA 10am-3pm. \$55 & \$12 lunchbox. 360-416-4934 <http://www.celticarts.org>

**6 National Tartan Day PNW Piping Showcase**, Celtic Arts Foundation, Littlefield Celtic Center, 1124 Cleveland

Ave., Mount Vernon, WA 7:00pm. \$25. 360-416-4934  
<https://celticarts.org>

**9 SSHGA Meeting, 7:30 pm.** St. Andrew's Episcopal Church 111 NE 80<sup>th</sup> St., Seattle, WA. Info: (206) 522-2541

**14 Caledonian & St. Andrews Society Gathering, 2:00 pm.** Haller Lake United Methodist Church, 13055 1st Ave. NE, Seattle, WA. 98125.

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## Recap of Gung Haggis Fat Choy 13



On 24 February 2019, 250 guests enjoyed the 13<sup>th</sup> year of Gung Haggis Fat Choy at China Harbor Restaurant. Attire for the event was an eclectic mixture of Scottish kilts and Chinese Kung Fu



jackets.

Above, the NW Junior Pipe Band entered.

Right, Bill McFadden presented Kathy Bowie with a Robert Burns glass.

Left, Christian Skoorsmith performed "Address to the Haggis" in rap with Todd Wong, from Vancouver, BC.



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## Membership Renewal

It's time to renew your membership for 2019. Bring your check made out for \$35 for a single and \$45 for a couple to the next Gathering or send it to:

Treasurer  
Caledonian & St. Andrew's Society of Seattle  
PO Box 27278  
Seattle WA 98165-1778

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## Articles and Topics About Scotland and Things Scottish

*From [ebooks.visitscotland.com](http://ebooks.visitscotland.com)*

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## Famous Scots

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### Culture

#### Sean Connery

**1930 -**

Sean Connery was born in the Fountainbridge area of Edinburgh. He left school early to work and had a variety of jobs including milkman, labourer, lifeguard and even a nude model for art classes. He drifted into acting and began performing in plays. His first TV appearance was in 1956 which led to a contract with MGM. He appeared in a few low-key films before being offered the role of James Bond in the 1962 film Dr No. The role of Bond was one he was to reprise for a number of years but eventually he wanted to try more varied roles. He continues to be one of Hollywood's leading actors with many award-winning performances throughout his career.

#### Billy Connolly

**1940 -**

Born in Glasgow, he started his career as a welder in the dockyards on the River Clyde. During the 1960s, he was a member of a successful folk band called The Humblebums but it was soon clear that his jokes were taking over the show. During the 70s, he became famous in his own right as a comedian and a writer both on stage and on television. His career flourished and he began acting.

#### Annie Lennox

**1954 -**

Born in Aberdeen on Christmas Day, Annie Lennox has had a hugely successful career both with The Eurythmics and in her solo career. She showed signs of her musical talent at an early age and was accepted into the Royal Academy of Music at 17. She later joined forces with Dave Stewart to form The Eurythmics and together they enjoyed major success



during the 1980s with songs such as 'Sweet Dreams' and 'Here Comes the Rain Again'. The Eurythmics split in 1989 and Annie Lennox went on to establish herself as a solo artist, with her album 'Diva' which won her major acclaim, including a Grammy. Recently, she was reunited with Dave Stewart and they released an album entitled 'Peace'.

### **Ewan McGregor**

**1971 -**

Ewan McGregor was born in Crieff in 1971. He wanted to be an actor from a young age and began by studying drama at Kirkcaldy in Fife and then attended London's Guildhall School of Music and Drama. He was shot to fame in the cult film *Shallow Grave* and followed that with the hard-hitting drama *Trainspotting*. His world-wide recognition has come from his role as the Jedi Master Obi Wan Kenobi in the Star Wars prequels

### **Kelly Macdonald**

**1976 -**

Kelly Macdonald is a Glasgow-born actress, known for her role in the independent film *Trainspotting* as well as mainstream releases such as *Nanny McPhee*, *Gosford Park*, *No Country for Old Men*, and *Brave*. On television she is known for her roles in *Boardwalk Empire* and *State of Play*.

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From *The History of Scotland in 25 Objects*  
<https://ebooks.visitscotland.com/25-objects/>

### **Penicuik Jewels**



The Penicuik Jewels are a necklace, pendant, and locket containing portraits of a man and woman, thought to be Mary Queen of Scots and her son, James, King James VI of Scotland and King

James I of England.

They are special because they are among the few items in existence that once belonged to Mary Stuart, Mary Queen of Scots. She had a vast and splendid collection of jewellery, much of it inherited or brought over from France. Nearly all of it was gold, studded with rubies, diamonds, sapphires and emeralds and decorated with richly coloured enameling. It is believed that she commissioned some items to be made specifically

as gifts for people with whom she wished to build relationships.

Few of Mary's possessions still exist because Elizabeth was adamant that, following Mary's death, her clothes should be burnt and her belongings dispersed to prevent the emergence of a cult of relics around the martyred queen.

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From *The Scottish Banner*

### **Celtic Connections**

By Sean Cairney

This month many of our Celtic cousins will celebrate their varied identities with Wales celebrating St David's Day and the Welsh culture on March 1st, Saint Piran's Day is celebrated on 5th March as the national day of Cornwall and the widely known Irish Saint Patrick will be celebrated across the world on March 17th.

What do these celebrations have to do with Scots, who have their own day in November with St. Andrew's Day? Perhaps more than we realise; as Celts the link is deep and strong amongst us.

#### **Wales**

Both Scotland and Wales have two amazing, and mythical, national animals. The Welsh dragon is known the world over and proudly is shown on their flag, while Scots have the lesser known but just as unique unicorn which appears on Scotland's Royal Coat of Arms. Scots hero Sir William Wallace may also have Welsh background as Wallace is said to translate to Welshman.

Who doesn't love a wee dance? A twmpath is Wales' own form of a ceilidh - the traditional Gaelic social gathering involving folk music and dance originating in Scotland and Ireland. The twmpath includes the familiar trad music instruments such as the accordion and fiddle.

Like Scotland Wales has its own language which they are working hard to preserve, and Welsh may have originated by early Welsh settlers to Scotland, who went on to develop Old Welsh.

#### **Cornwall**

Also preserving their own language heritage are the Cornish. The language is spoken by hundreds of people in Cornwall who are working to revive

and promote the Cornish language, identity and culture.

Though at opposite ends of the country, Scotland and Cornwall are 'linked' by a rite of passage journey for many. The well-trodden 874 miles/1,407km journey from Land's End to John o'Groats, the most south-westerly point of Cornwall to the north-eastern tip of mainland Scotland, has inspired many to travel the length of Britain by car, bike and even on foot.

Recently Cornwall was also given minority status - the same protections as the Welsh, Scottish and Irish - under European rules.

### **Ireland**

At the closest point Scotland and the North Antrim Coast are just 12 miles/19 km apart, and the migration of people between the two countries has been going on for centuries.

Today a visitor to both Scotland and Ireland will pick up numerous Celtic similarities between these two great nations. One would be the use of the Gaelic language in street signs, spoken word and music. Whilst the Irish Gaelic and Scots Gaelic languages are distinct, they remain part of the same dialect and individual words and phrases remain close enough for each to understand the other.

Both are great lands to try a dram as each blend their own 'juice of the barley', whether it is spelt whiskey or whisky. The aptly names 'water of life' flows as uisce beatha (Irish Gaelic) or uisge beatha (Scots Gaelic) and both nations produce world class products and are important to the local economy both as exports and for inbound tourism. Regardless of which you prefer both the Scots and Irish will raise a glass with the traditional sláinte, or cheers.

Both nations as well have seen their nationals spread across the world. The Irish and Scottish Diaspora today celebrate their land of ancestry with millions of people claiming ancestry to one, and often both.

Celts share many cultural, historical and social identities, and whilst different to Scotland, those nations are without a doubt very much our Celtic cousins.

## **Aberdeen academics provide a blend of science to Scottish tea growers**



Scientists from the University of Aberdeen have joined forces with a Scottish tea growing association in a bid to support the future of local tea production. Researchers from the School of Biological Sciences were approached by tea growers 'Tea Gardens of Scotland' to assist them in carrying out a state of the art chemical analysis of their product to enable them to develop a distinctive identity in a market which is already well populated by tea imported from overseas.

In order to safeguard locally grown product it is important to provide reassurance to consumers of its location of origin, and this can only be provided by an independent authentication system combined with product labelling. The Aberdeen team provided the Scottish tea growers with data that could be used to support the future development of a new authentication process for Scottish tea.

Green leaf was picked from various tea gardens across Fife, Angus and Perthshire and processed into a variety of black and green teas. These teas were analysed alongside other Scottish grown and world teas for the project.

Professor David Burslem, an expert in plant science, led the team carrying out the analyses and determined that Scottish grown tea is chemically distinct from tea imported from overseas, therefore consumers can be assured the product has been grown in Scotland.

Professor Burslem said: "After carrying out our tests, we were able to determine that tea grown in Scotland has distinct chemical differences to that of tea grown overseas, possibly due to differences in the soils they are grown in. The result is consistent for both black and green tea products.

"These results provide confidence that a simple chemical test can be used to authenticate the

geographical origin of tea, and used to underpin a product labelling system that would reassure consumers. Scottish tea is a high value product currently grown in small quantities, therefore increased consumer confidence may help to develop the market both nationally and internationally.”

Beverly Wainwright, Tea consultant and maker, added: “This study has been successful in finding a scientific test that proves the provenance of Scottish grown teas. Going forward, we hope to use this as a first step in the authentication process of Scottish grown teas. This is needed to reassure consumers and to differentiate Scottish grown teas from imported blends such as Scottish breakfast which contain no home grown tea at all. There are around 30 small scale tea growers in Scotland and a growing number in the rest of the U.K. and Europe who could potentially benefit from an accreditation scheme.”

## Duke & Duchess of Cambridge Officially open V&A Dundee



The Duke and Duchess of Cambridge officially opened V&A Dundee on Tuesday 29 January. Their Royal Highnesses visited the new international design museum and met with its architect Kengo Kuma, key members of the team who created Scotland’s first design museum, and local designers, schoolchildren and young people who have worked with V&A Dundee.

V&A Dundee’s construction and fit-out took three and a half years to complete and it stands at the centre of the £1 billion transformation of the Dundee waterfront, once part of the city’s docklands. With its complex geometry, designed by Kengo Kuma and inspired by the dramatic cliffs along the north-east coast of Scotland, it stretches out into the River Tay – a new landmark connecting the city with its historic waterfront, and a new major cultural development for Scotland and the UK.

As Scotland’s first design museum, V&A Dundee tells a global story, investigating the international

importance of design alongside presenting Scotland’s outstanding design achievements.

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*From The Scotsman Newspaper*

## Ulva Community completes first milestone

By Alison Campsie



The Ulva community has completed its first “milestone” improvement project since buying their island eight months ago. Repairs to the slip way and the connecting pier on Mull have been completed, securing the ferry route and the work of fishermen operation out of the Sound of Ulva. Significant deterioration to the pier over the years meant it was at risk of falling apart and becoming dangerous. Fixing it was one of the first priorities of North West Mull Community Woodland Company, who bought the island on behalf of the island’s five residents last June.

The community company raised £4.4m from the Scottish Land Fund to buy Ulva from owner Jamie Howard, whose family had owned the island for 70 years. The total purchase cost £4.65m with a global



fundraising effort helping to secure the balance.



More improvements for the pier are planned, including the widening of the structure, new storage and possible shelters on the Ulva side where fishermen can wait in safety during bad weather.

## Orkney and Shetland become part of Scotland

By Alison Campsie



On 20 February 1472, Norway handed over Orkney and Shetland to Scotland in lieu of a dowry payment for a Royal Wedding. Margaret of Denmark, the daughter King Christian of Norway, Denmark and Sweden, wed James III of Scotland in a long standing arrangement aimed at quelling a tax-related feud between the powers.

As wedding preparations got underway, it was arranged for Orkney and Shetland to be held by the Scottish Crown and handed back when the impoverished Scandinavian King made a dowry payment of 50,000 Rhenish Florins.

Margaret, aged 13, became Queen of Scotland after marrying James III at Holyrood Abbey in July 1469. At the end of the first year of the marriage, the payment had not been made and more money was added to the pledge.

As the years passed, the Scottish influence over the islands grew. By the late 17th century the variant of the Norse language of Orkney - Norn - was spoken only by the inhabitants of one or two remote parishes. But both islands retain a Scandinavian feel in part - with both still immensely proud of their Norse heritage.



A fellowship founded in Seattle in 1902 to foster a love of Scotland, her people, and her heritage.

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